

A prickly palm, about 20 feet high, with a brown woolly trunk up to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet thick, and terminal leaves from 6 to 8 feet in length. The sheathing bases of the leaves are armed with long, black spines, and the spathe is very spiny. The yellow flowers are very odorous, and the round fruits are about an inch in diameter. This palm is found in the cooler regions of Mexico up to 3000 feet above the sea, and is said to be hardy at Santa Barbara, California. (Adapted from Mueller, Select Extra-Tropical Plants, p. 19, from Bailey, Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture, p. 211, and from Martius, Historia Naturalis Palmarum, pp. 285, 286 and plate 138.)

*Alibertia edulis* A. Richard. (Rubiaceae.) 43413. Seeds from Tierras de Loba, Bolivar, Colombia. Collected by Mr. H. M. Curran. A tropical and extra-tropical shrub found in Central and northern South America, with white flowers and yellow fruit, which is about the size of a small lemon, and is called *Marmeladinha*. The entire plant is called *Puruhy*, both of these being Brazilian names. The fruit is edible and very agreeable in taste. (Adapted from von Mueller, Selected Extra-Tropical Plants, from Pittier, Plantas Usuales de Costa Rica, p. 110, and from Correa, Flora do Brazil, p. 112.)

*Annona purpurea* Moc. & Sesse. (Annonaceae.) 43426. Fruit of *Soncoya* from Escuintla, Guatemala. Seed collected by Mr. Wilson Popenoe, Agricultural Explorer. "The *suncuya* or *soncuya*, sometimes called *chincuya*, a remarkable species of *Annona* which appears to be fairly common in the foothills of the western slopes of Guatemala. Fruits and trees were seen from Escuintla to Ayutla, on the Mexican frontier, the elevation varying from 200 to 1200 feet. The *soncuya* is an immense fruit, often larger than a child's head, and covered with short conical protuberances. It is almost perfectly spherical in form, measures about six inches in length, and weighs three pounds or more. In color it is a light russet brown, sometimes greenish, and the protuberances are about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch long, sharply pointed, and corky in character. The rind also is corky, about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick, rather pliable, granular and easily broken. The flesh within is pale orange, cottony in texture, rather juicy and with an aroma and flavor almost identical with that of the North American pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*). The seeds are very